

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ANKARA 01947 101652Z

70

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

ACDA-05 NIC-01 SAJ-01 /064 W  
----- 108602

R 101600Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8308

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

USMISSION NATO

EUCOM

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 1947

E.E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, TU

SUBJECT: DEMIREL AND THE GOVERNMENT CRISIS

REF: A) ANKARA 1892 B) ANKARA 1885

1. AS PRIMIN SADI IRMAK BEGINS HIS SECOND ROUND OF CONTACTS WITH POLITICAL PARTY LEADERS, THE RISING POLITICAL STRENGTH OF JUSTICE PARTY (JP) CHAIRMAN SULEYMAN DEMIREL DECREASES THE CHANCES THAT IRMAK'S EFFORTS WILL BE SUCCESSFUL.

2. DEMIREL'S LATEST POLITICAL BOOST CAME OVER THE MARCH 8-WEEKEND WHEN OVER 100 PROMINENT FORMER MEMBERS OF THE OLD DEMOCRAT PARTY JOINED THE JUSTICE PARTY DURING WELL-PUBLICIZED CEREMONIES IN ANKARA AND ISTANBUL, THEREBY STRONGLY REINFORCING THE JP'S CLAIM TO THE POLITICAL LEGACY OF THE LATE PRIMIN MENDARES. CORRESPONDINGLY, THE RIVAL CLAIM TO THIS LEGACY BY FERRUH BOZBEYLI'S DEMOCRATIC PARTY (DP) HAS BEEN SERIOUSLY WEAKENED, AND PROBABLY THERE ARE INCREASED CHANCES OF A SPLIT FROM THE PARTY BY THE  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ANKARA 01947 101652Z

DISSIDENT GROUP (VARYING FROM 11 TO 19 MEMBERS) LED BY SADETTIN

BILGIC AND MUTLU MENDERES (SON OF THE LATE PRIMIN). ALSO, THE POSSIBILITY THAT BOZBEYLI COULD BRING HIS PARTY INTO A COALITION WITH THE RPP WITHOUT CAUSING A SPLIT IN THE DP APPEARS FURTHER REDUCED.

3. WHILE DEMIREL AND OTHER NATIONALIST FRONT LEADERS SEEM TO HAVE RULED OUT SOLUTIONS OTHER THAN A DEMIREL-LED GOVERNMENT, PRESIDENT KORUTURK APPEARS RELUCTANT TO DESIGNATE DEMIREL. THE OSTENSIBLE REASON IS THAT THE FRONT IS STILL SHORT OF A CLEAR MAJORITY IN THE PARLIAMENT (ALTHOUGH IT MIGHT WELL PICK UP THE FEW NEEDED SEATS IF DESIGNATED TO FORM A GOVERNMENT). IT IS MORE LIKELY THAT KORUTURK IS INFLUENCED BY THE FOLLOWING CONSIDERATIONS:

A. FEAR THAT IF DEMIREL COMES TO POWER IN A GOVERNMENT EXCLUDING THE RPP, POLARIZATION AMONG POLITICAL GROUPS WOULD INCREASE, ALONG WITH THE CHANCES FOR RENEWED OUTBREAKS OF SERIOUS PUBLIC DISORDERS, OF THE TYPE WHICH PRECEDED DEMIREL'S FALL FROM POWER IN 1971.

B. PROSPECT THAT A NATIONALIST FRONT GOVERNMENT (WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF THE ISLAMIC-UTOPIAN NATIONAL SALVATION PARTY AND THE EXTREME NATIONALIST NATIONAL ACTION PARTY AND ITS CONFRONTATION ORIENTED YOUTH ORGANIZATION) WOULD BE INHERENTLY UNSTABLE.

C. DISTRUST OF THE NSP AS ANTI-ATATURKIST AND THE NAP AS FASCIST.

D. MILITARY OPPOSITION TO DEMIREL.

4. A MEMBER OF THE RPP PARTY ASSEMBLY RECENTLY TOLD US THAT IF DEMIREL COMES TO POWER, THE EXTREME LEFTISH GROUPS -- WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS "CRAZY" -- WOULD "TAKE TO THE STREETS" IN A NEW ROUND OF CIVIL VIOLENCE. UNDER SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES, THE MILITARY LEADERSHIP -- WHICH HAS SO FAR BEEN RELUCTANT TO INTERVENE IN THE POLITICAL PROCESS -- MIGHT FEEL CONSTRAINED TO STEP IN AND RESTORE ORDER. THE JP SEEMS WELL AWARE OF THIS DANGER; ITS ANSWER IS THAT "THE STREET SHOULD NOT CONTROL THE STATE."

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 ANKARA 01947 101652Z

5. CONSEQUENTLY, IT WOULD APPEAR THAT IRMAK'S CHANCES OF SUCCESS DEPEND ON WHAT ARRANGEMENTS HE CAN WORK OUT WITH THE RPP AND DP. MACOMBER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** COALITION GOVERNMENT, POLITICAL PARTIES, POLITICAL LEADERS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 10 MAR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975ANKARA01947  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750083-0821  
**From:** ANKARA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750368/aaaaciyz.tel  
**Line Count:** 111  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 ANKARA 1892, 75 ANKARA 1885  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** CunninFX  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 08 MAY 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <08 MAY 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <30 SEP 2003 by CunninFX>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** DEMIREL AND THE GOVERNMENT CRISIS  
**TAGS:** PINT, TU, (IRMAK, SADI), (DEMIREL, SULEYMAN)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006